

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 05987 291448Z

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 PM-03 INR-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSC-05 EUR-08 IO-06 NEA-07 /055 W

-----099329 291450Z /53

R 291420Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9457

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI POUCH

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SANA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T JIDDA 5987

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SO, US

SUBJ: ARMS FOR SOMALIA

REF: (A) JIDDA 5887, (B) STATE 195953

1. DURING MEETING WITH AMB ON AUG 28, FOREIGN  
MINISTER SAUDI TOOK STRONG EXCEPTION TO USG DECISION  
TO DELAY IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM TO SUPPLY MILITARY  
EQUIPMENT TO SOMALIA. SAUD SAID THAT PURPOSE OF  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 JIDDA 05987 291448Z

THIS MILITARY SUPPLY PROGRAM IS TO COUNTERACT  
SOVIET INFLUENCE IN AFRICA AND THAT ARMS FROM THE  
UNITED STATES WOULD HAVE A SIGNIFICANT SYMBOLIC  
IMPORTANCE. FOR THE USG TO ANNOUNCE PUBLICLY  
A DECISION TO SUPPLY ARMS TO SOMALIA AND THEN TO  
APPEAR TO REVERSE THIS DECISION WOULD HAVE A NEGATIVE  
SYMBOLIC EFFECT AND WOULD BE CONTRARY TO BOTH USG

AND SAUDI INTERESTS IN THE REGION.

2. SAUD ADDED THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARMS SUPPLY PROGRAM WOULD NOT ALTER THE PROBLEM OF THE OGADEN WHICH IS A LONG-STANDING CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE BETWEEN SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA. HE SAID THAT HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND THE UNITED STATES POSITION AND COULD NOT BELIEVE THAT THE USG IS "AFRAID OF ETHIOPIA."

3. SAUD ALSO SAID THAT SAG HAD A GUARANTEE FROM THE SOMALIS THAT THEY HAVE NO DESIGNS ON KENYA.  
WEST

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, MILITARY SALES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 29-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977JIDDA05987  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770311-0990  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** c7025851-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** 77 JIDDA 5887, 77 STATE 195953  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1452703  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARMS FOR SOMALIA  
**TAGS:** MASS, SO, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009